

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 are pending in the present application. Claim 3 is amended and Claims 8 and 9 are canceled without prejudice by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 3 was objected to for an informality; Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101; and Claims 1-7 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of this indication, Claim 3 has been amended as suggested by the outstanding Office Action and rejected Claims 8 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice. Therefore, it is believed that no outstanding matters are left in this application.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

Remus F. Fetea, Ph.D.
Registration No. 59,140